viding drinking water in rural areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan:—

Handpumps	1,44,424
Drilled tubewells	42,884
Wells	874
Re-location of tubewells ..	98,013

The entire unserved and underserved rural population is likely to be provided safe drinking water facilities by the end of the Plan period.

Indian Industries to try new processes by CSIR

4835. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what measures are being taken by Government to persuade Indian Industry to try the new processes or products by C.S.I.R.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMRAMANGALAM): New processes/ products developed by CSIR are entitled to the same benefits as are available to new processes/products developed by other publicly funded R&D organisations, such as grant of higher depreciation allowance for plant and machinery for setting up Industries based on indigenous technology. Besides, to persuade Indian Industry to try new technologies developed by CSIR, it has enhanced its interaction with industry in project identification and selection, with Consultancy Organizations in putting together appropriate technology packages and with financial institutions for financial assistance.

Rain fall with the help of silver iodide

4836. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some drought prone countries produced rain with the help of silver iodide;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the experiment in western countries produced evidence that the rainfall had increased from 3 per cent to 4 per cent;

(c) if so, whether Government have any proposal to produce rain with the help of silver iodide;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

Some countries notably US, Israel, Australia etc., when faced with drought, have carried out scientifically controlled cold cloud seeding operations using Silver Iodide in an attempt to increase rainfall.

(b) The results of the cloud seeding experiments using Silver Iodide have not produced consistent results. In some cases, increase of precipitation from 3 to 4 per cent has been obtained.

(c) At present there is no proposal under consideration to undertake seeding of cold clouds using Silver Iodide.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) In India, 90 per cent of the clouds during the South-West Monsoon season are warm clouds. Silver Iodide technique is not suitable for seeding such clouds.